

The Monthly A·C·E

*The Official Bulletin of the Association of Clandestine
Radio Enthusiasts*

Since 1982 • March, 2002

Partial India Radio

DATE:

THANKS TO BROWN, CONES &
D'ANGELO FOR 13 YEARS OF
KULPSVILLE....



AND NO THANKS TO BOZO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Managing Editor's Page

By Harry Helms

P. O. Box 335, Ridgecrest, CA, 93556-0335

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According to the National Radio Club, the station apparently operated from Brooklyn by members of the Lubavitcher sect of Orthodox Judaism is being heard throughout the north-east on 1710 kHz during the evening; it is being heard from Ontario to Pennsylvania. Mem- bers in the northeast and middle Atlantic areas should definitely try for this one!

The National Radio Club also reports that members in northern New Jersey are hearing an apparent pirate on 1700 kHz on weekend nights; the station is under heavy interference from licensed broadcasters on the frequency. The programming of this one seems to be mainly "how to do it" talks about setting up your own pirate station!

What are you hearing? Send in a report to your editors today!

73,

Harry

FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



- ✓ Audio Clips
- ✓ Photos
- ✓ QSLs
- ✓ The ACE
- ✓ Chat
- ✓ News
- ✓ The Grapevine
- ✓ Over 1000 Links

DIALOGS March 2002

Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130
Email: lreynolds@sparmcop.net
ICQ# 60166326/4139354
(Next deadline for submissions: March 20th, 2002)

IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE THE EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE (ABOVE)!

LATE LOGS

Radio Pirana International (rpi@write.com)

- 01/18/02, 2347-0027, 11420A - mx - Beatles, Rock. Long talk by OM in Spanish with English interspersed. IDs at 0003 and 0007. (RD-PA)

UNID

- 01/19/02, 0004-0012*, 6925U - mx - Rock. Mentions of Bozo, Sal Amuniac at the mike, Steve Anderson and "Number 9." No ID noted. (RD-PA)

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Alfa Lima International (Hoogveen)

- 02/03/02, 1450-1514, 21900A - mx - Techno, C&W. Test transmission. (JS-NE 222)

Radio Nova International (Rueil, France)

- 01/26/02, 2340-0538+, 6210A - mx - Rock. ID at 2353, OM anncr w/EE accent. (CL-MA)(RD-PA)

Radio Omroep Zuid (Roz.am@iae.nl)

- 02/03/02, 1333-1721*, 21890A - mx - Pop, New Age, Survivor. IDs and email address. (CL-MA 232)(JS-NE 211)

The Voice Of The Netherlands (votn@hotmail.com)

- 02/03/02, 0730-0756, 7485A - mx - Santana, Pop. Possible IDs. (GM-FL)

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

Buckwheat Radio (buckwheatradio@hotmail.com)

- 01/27/02, 0430-0512*, 6955U - mx - an all "The Cars" show. "Hi" to Al Fansome and Greg in Florida. Announced as being in "non high fidelity real sideband." (Pse QSL LR-NH 555)(AF 322)(GZ-OH 252)(RD-PA)(JS-NE 433)

Captain Morgan (FRN)

- 02/04/02, +0335-0346*, 6950A - mx - "King Tut", cover of "We Didn't Start The Fire." OM anncr w/ID of "Captain Morgan." Off with "Twilight Zone" theme tune. (Pse QSL LR-NH 332)

CHE FM (Unknown)

- 02/07/02, +2350-0009*, 6950U - mx - Status Quo, Be Bop Deluxe, Tom Robinson Band, The Sweet. YL anncr with CHE(?) FM IDs. Interesting - sounded like a tape of a Canadian FM from the late half 70's, judging by the "new" Status Quo track - to tell truth (being a UK Olde Pharte) I really, really liked it! (Pse QSL LR-NH 534)(AF 232)

Dickhead Radio (Unknown)

- 01/26/02, 2322-2345, 6950A - mx - Surfer sounds by the most excellent Dick Dale. OM anncr with "Dickhead Radio" ID. (Pse QSL LR-NH 333)

Fake Radio 3 (Unknown)

- 01/23/02, 0146-0202*, 6925A - porno movie soundtrack. Also IDed as "Radio John T. Arthur." (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 02/04/02, 0429-0501*, 6950A - mx - Tom Jones. More of the porno soundtrack, clips of Bozo and Captain Ganja. Also IDed as "Radio Jawbone" and "Radio John T. Arthur." (JS-NE 322)

Oxycontin Radio (Unknown)

- 02/21/02, 0110-0151*, 6925A - mx - "Turning Japanese," "Lovesick Blues," "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," Bozo and the IDs "Pure Oxycontin Power" and "Drugs that make sense." (AF 423)(JS-NE 433)

Radio 3 (A.C.E.)

- 01/23/02, 0132-0157+, 6925A - mx - Thomas Dolby, Right Said Fred. (AF 422)

- 02/04/02, 0404-0459+, 6950A - mx - Abba, Right Said Fred. Doctor Tornado clips and the unforgettable "Pee on the FCC" by Jimmy Da Weasel. (AF 433)

Radio FCC (Unknown)

- 01/27/02, 0346, 6955U - mx - Millie Small, Buddy Holly, Gene Vincent. (AF 322)

Radio Free Euphoria (Belfast)

- 02/03/02, 2321-0018, 6950A - mx - Cab Calloway, parody of "Blue Jay Way." Weak signal, drug references. (AF 231)(JS-NE 211)

Radio Neptune Universal Service (Blue Ridge Summit)

- 01/27/02, 0345-0420*, 6950U - discussion, then music. Show #9 dedicated to "Princess J." (AF 221)(JS-NE)
- 02/10/02, 0344-0430*, 6925U - Rebroadcast of show #9. (JS-NE)
- 02/10/02, 1605, 6925U - music but bad local QRM. (AF 321)

Radio USA (Defunct)

- 02/10/02, 0108, 6950A - mx - "I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing." Geriatric Olympics. (WS-TN 242)

Shadow Radio (the_shadow6950@hotmail.com)

- 02/17/02, 0345-0420*, 6955U - a broadcast of an old SF radio show - "Planet Man." QRT with "Martian Hop" by the Randells. (WS-TN 343)(JS-NE 322)

Sycko Radio (psycoradiohd@yahoo.com)

- 01/25/02, 0136, 6955U - mx - Queen's "We Will Rock You." (AF 333)
- 01/27/02, *0516-0530*, 6955U - "International Shortwave" jingle, skits and mx. (RD-PA - Rich reported AM? Leastways he didn't put a mode and that's standard indicator for AM...)(JS-NE)
- 02/03/02, 0417-0422, 6955U - mx - various. Talk with "George." (WS-TN 444) (AF 322)
- 02/04/02, 0146-0245*, 6955U - mx - some kind of ballad/singalong "I'd rather be Dead than wet my Bed!" All-vinyl program. Maybe Sycko saying "Hello Radio." "Rock'n'roll Doctor" call-in show. (AF 322)(WS-TN 444)(JS-NE)
- 02/11/02, 0256, 6956U - mx. (WS-TN 444)
- 02/18/02, 0312-0405+, 6950U - mx - "Eat It", "Pirate Radio." Jimmy the Blade visiting. (AF 242)(GM-CT 333)

The Crooked Man (Defunct)

- 01/28/02, 0132-0147*, 6950U - mx - Rolling Stones, Cream. Loud declamations about bastards by OM anor. Echo ID at -0147 "This is The Crooked Man calling!" (AF 322 - Al says AM?)(CL-MA 333)

The Scream Of The Mosquito (Defunct)

- 02/12/02, 0118-0122*6925U - mx - Funk. Off with "Adios!" (AF 423)

The Voice Of Captain Ron Shortwave (captainronswr@yahoo.com)

- 02/02/02, 0340-0426+, 6925L - mx - Rage Against The Machine. The Captain sings Devo, he and Major Prick hosting the show. Two minute break at 0409. (CL-MA 232)(RD-PA)

United Patriot Militia Bingo (yahwehradio6925@yahoo.com)

- 02/18/02, 0413-0449*, 6925A - mx - James Brown. Selling "Hero Militia action figures", Merlin drop announcement and comment on Canada's strange looking ZIP codes. An always-welcome clip of the Militia Babe. (WS-TN 444)(JS-NE 433)

URGZ (Defunct)

- 02/03/02, 2304-2350(?), 6950A - comedy skits. "We have the urge to broadcast!", "You get Urges!" Low audio. (AF 321)(Pse QSL EC-MI 333) (Elmer sent in a report just for this station only so, if there's any chance of anyone getting one to him...?)

WHYP (Providence)

- 01/30/02, 0126-0202+, 6925A - the L.Cee listener appreciation program. (JS-NE 333)
- 02/02/02, 0253-0337*, 6925A - mx - Radiohead, The Ventures (presumably). Why James Brownyard likes Pirating, Winterfest, mention of Pat Murphy, the Bozo audio clips. (CL-MA 343)(RD-PA) (GM-CT 344)
- 02/02/02, 2325-0051*, 6925A - mx - Thomas Dolby, "Radio Slob." The now-infamous "Who wants to be a Pirate Radio Operator." James Brownyard discussing Captain Ganja's Top Ten graphics. Announced as WHYP shortwave from the transmitters of WMOB. (GM-CT 345) (GM-FL 333)(JS-NE)
- 02/09/02, 0231-0401+, 6924A - mx - After The Fire. References to Captain Ganja and Bozo. The Maharishi belts out a few. (AF 422)(JS-NE 433)
- 02/13/02, 0004, 6925A - mx - Devo. Colonel James Brownyard and Ganja's graphics. (AF 433)
- 02/16/02, 0113-0303, 6925A - mx - Commander Cody, The Fixx. Bozo, Ganja's graphics. Dedication to the late Waylon Jennings. (AF 422)(JS-NE 433)(GM-CT 345)

- 02/16/02, 2206, 6925A - mx - Eagles, Ricky Martin and Charlie Daniels parodies. (AF 322)
- 02/18/02, 0223-0309, 6950A - mx - Steely Dan parody, Police parody, "The Groove Is In The Heart." WHYP anthology program. 2/16 show a bootleg? (Pirating a Pirate? Hehl - Lee)(AF 433)(WS-TN 444)(GM-CT 335)

WMFQ (Providence)

- 01/27/02, 0104, 6925A - mx - Maria Muldaur. (AF 322)
- 01/28/02, 0107-0130*, 6925A - mx - Beatles, rap version of "Smile on your Brother." Sal Ammoniac's QSLing habits derided, new non-shouting ID, off abruptly. (AF 433)(CL-MA 232)(GM-CT 333)

WRAP (Unknown)

- 01/26/02, +2305-2317*, 6950A - mx - "White Rabbit", a cover version of Woody Guthrie's "This Land Is Your Land." OM anor w/southern accent, some speechifying. Tricky copy. (Pse QSL LR-NH 322)
- 01/27/02, 1050-1108*, 6955A - mx - The McCoys, "Keep on hangin' On." (JS-NE 222)

WRAY (Belfast)

- 01/27/02, 0123, 6950A - mx (presumably Link Wray cuts), "The Ray," drop given but very hard to make out. (AF 322)

Z-100 (bigz100fm@yahoo.com)

- 01/27/02, *0235-0257*, 6955U - mx - Foreigner, Hendrix, Eric Burdon. Off in mid-song. (GM-CT 423)(GZ-OH 252)(JS-NE)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

Unid

- 01/27/02, 1508-1518*, 6955U - mx - Rock, novelty. Pirate "Aaargh!" song and jingle heard at 151 but no ID given before station QRT. (GZ-OH 253)
- 02/01/02, 0210-0226*, 6925A - mx - Pink Floyd's "Money," other Floyd cuts. (AF 433)
- 02/03/02, 0355-0419*, 6925U - mx - unknown variety of Country (AF). AC/DC country-style covers - "Dirty Deeds," "Big Balls," "Have a Drink on Me." (JS) (AF 321)(Pse QSL JS-NE 333)
- 02/03/02, 1323-1343*, 6955U - a live version of "Do What You're Doing To Me." (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 02/04/02, 0044-0059+, 6950A - mx - Billy Joel "You May Be Right." Faded. (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 02/10/02, 2301, 6950U - mx - Wild Cherry. Weak, short transmission. (AF 141)
- 02/16/02, 1640-1705, 6955U - mx - AC/DC, other. Technical problems, some dead air. (AF 423)

CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL

Rich D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 (RD-PA)
 Elmer Cronkright, 3570 Oriole Avenue SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509-3443 (EC-MI)
 Al Fansome (AF)
 Chris Lobdell, Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL-MA)
 Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM-CT)
 Greg Myers, P.O. Box 20112, St. Petersburg, FL 33742 (GM-FL)
 Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130 (LR-NH)
 John Sedlasek, 2728 North 45th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS-NE)
 Woody Smith, P.O. Box 52823, Knoxville, TN 37950 (WS-TN)
 George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

TEN YEARS AFTER...

Well, looking at a Dialogs listing for March, 1992, the A.C.E. BBS (remember that?) was the source of a lot of loggings for the print column. Radio USA, East Coast Beer Drinker, WLIS and WSKY were to be heard on the air. Only WLIS is still active ten years on. 7413 to 7550 kHz was the main area of activity and AM broadcasts outnumbered SSB by about 2:1. Programming was usually either a musical show, a relay (identified as such!) or carefully put together original programming - comedy skits, parodies, original songs - things like that.

RAMBLINGS

Please note the change of email address on the column banner - the old address is going away. Soon.

We have a new contributor this time around – Elmer Cronkright in Michigan. Thanks for the logging, Elmer! As usual, my thanks to all who contributed to this month's column.

Four stations from the past were logged this period – URGZ, Radio USA, The Crooked Man and The Scream of the Mosquito. The general consensus is that these were all old taped shows being relayed by persons unknown. The drops for these stations are no longer working.

I found a fairly definitive listing of the usage of the SIO code. I've listed it below to act as a guide for you in reporting how well you hear a signal –

SIGNAL STRENGTH:

5 = None
4 = Slight
3 = Moderate
2 = Severe
1 = Extreme

INTERFERENCE:

5 = Very Strong
4 = Strong
3 = Fair
2 = Weak
1 = Nil

OVERALL QUALITY:

5 = Excellent
4 = Good
3 = Fair
2 = Fair
1 = Nil

So, that's how to do it!

More info – if you're net-connected a valuable source of Pirate address information is to be found at –

<http://www.clandestineradio.com/martin/pwdb-ema.html>

- this web page is maintained by Martin Schöch, the same guy who runs the Clandestine Radio Watch web site that George Zeller often refers to. It's a good resource and is particularly useful for finding the addresses of Euro Pirates.

Antennas – before I was laid low by fowl pest, I completed some major antenna work for HF reception. Practical results have led me to certain conclusions that others may wish to keep in mind –

Whether you have twenty feet of wire at 10' agl or a full-wave 160 meter dipole at 100' agl, neither will do you much good if you're picking up locally generated (read: in-house) noise. Two things will help keep this problem under control; a good ground system that is used to ground the coax lead-in of your antenna(s) at some point and locating the antenna(s) as far as possible from the source of noise (your house!)

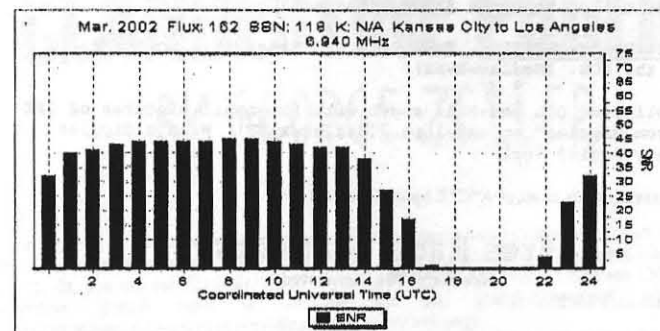
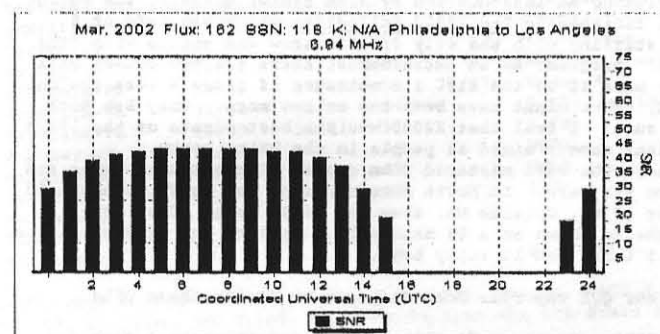
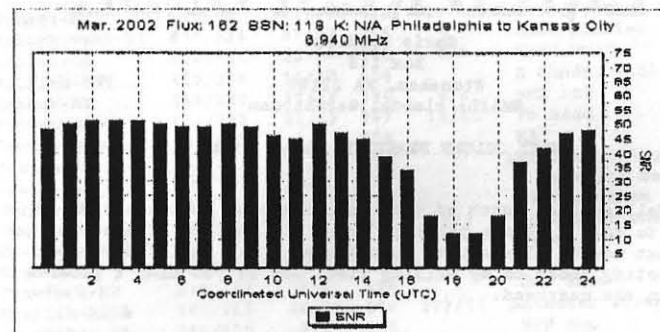
Static/lightning protection is always a smart idea. Couple this with the need to ground your coax lead-in at some point and an ideal device for the job comes to mind; the I301U lightning suppressor from Industrial Communications Engineers. I purchased a number of these and they do a nice job of keeping local noise out of the antenna lines – I tested this by switching between grounded and ungrounded antennas – the difference is remarkable. And who knows, the lightning/static protection might come in handy, too!

The antenna itself – I now have about 450 feet of wire up in the air overall in the form of slopers, dipoles and inverted-Vees. For overall HF reception use, the best all round antenna seems to be the Alpha-Delta DX Ultra. Basically it's a big multi-element/trapped dipole that can be mounted in a number of different configurations. Seems quite sturdy and of good quality and in a lot of spots it seems to offer a couple of S-points over its smaller Alpha-Delta Sloper brethren. Highly recommended.

Okay, that's enough of me acting as if I knew what I was talking about...

PROPAGATION

Here we are, folks – looks as if almost any time is good except early to mid afternoon....



VERIED RESPONSE

Chris Lobdell
Box 146
Stoneham, MA 02180
EMAIL: clobdell@attbi.com

NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: March 19th

Hi guys. Well another month of very little member participation. I'm beginning to feel a little paranoid here, hi! Anyway, I hope things pick up next month. Please note that I have a new email address. I tried to notify those on my mailing list, but if you didn't receive it, it's in the masthead.

TWO NEW PIRATE CDs AVAILABLE

Over the past few months, I've put together two new pirate CDs in the mp3 format [96 kbps]. The first one is The First 25 Radio Azteca Shows, including an introduction by Bram Stoker himself. The second one I just finished is The K2000 Collection which consists of 8 programs, starting with the July 4, 1993 show and ending with "The Abortion 97" program. As an extra bonus, there are two comedy bits that never made it on the air. I'm not sure if these 8 were the only ones aired, there might have been one or two more. Only Bob Rock knows for sure! I feel that K2000 was the best pirate of the 1990s for satirical comedy aimed at people in the DXing hobby. Both of these CDs were mastered from copies of the studio tapes and are easy on the ears. In North America, each one is \$5.00 postpaid or both for \$9.00. Outside NA, they are \$6.25 each. Cash or personal checks drawn on a US bank only. Mail to the address on the masthead. I think you'll enjoy both.

Thanks to our QSL reporter John Sedlacek of NE for these QSLs.

BUCKWHEAT RADIO. Email confirmation of report in about 2 days for email report to the station. [Sedlacek-NE]

RADIO OMROEP ZUID/ROZ-Holland. Full data post card and two full size sheets w/info, photos of station and equipment. in 2 weeks for email report, and mailed report & \$2.00. [Sedlacek-NE]

PURPLE NUCLEUS OF CREATION. Full Data QSL sheet in 2 months for report to the ACE. [Sedlacek-NE]

WJFK. Unsolicited QSL one-half sheet with thumbnail pictures of JFK and "Hi from Giggles" on envelope. [Sedlacek-NE] Wasn't Giggles from Mystery Radio? -crl-

Veried Response presents another A*C*E Special feature:

Free Radio Statistics

formerly: The Scoreboard

updated 22 February 2002

KEY:

NAM = North American Pirate QSLs, to include Canada
For = Foreign Pirate QSLs, outside NAM
dif = number of different stations represented
Tot = total different Pirate QSLs, NAM + For

name-state	--pirates--			-cland-		best QSL
	NAM/dif	For/dif	Tot	tot/dif		
R Brandt-DL	146/82	1363/787	869	16/10		KTVI/VotRock
J Filipkowski-RI	695/334	37/32	366			KMOM panties
G Zeller-OH	500/352	10/10	362	8/8		WHBH bust
N Wolfish-ONT	459/294	14/10	304			R Conдор Intl
J Arthur-NY	518/280	22/18	298	4/4		SML Ltd
T Provance-OH	430/251	21/16	267	14/11		Vo Acid
E Cronkright-MI	227/227	9/9	236			KAT
E Rausch-NJ	266/201	22/17	218			LvdMTiempo/ArgosyMag
R Pfaff-VA	198/192	21/21	213			R Amazonia beercan
P Murphy-VA	248/196	19/15	211			CSIC chicken
C Smolinski-MD	194/163	22/17	218	2/2		VoVoyager bust
J Coatsworth-ONT	213/173	26/20	193			KMOM
R Ross-ONT	200+/151	35/26	177	50/37		KIWI
C Crawford-KY	290/156	2/2	158			Car Show
E Kusalik-ALTA	185/116	26/24	148	103/64		Anteater license plt
R Hunsicker-PA	201/138	2/2	140			WPN mug
B Stacey-AL	262/136	2/2	138			Zepplin R WW
R Comeau-MA	115/	22/	137			Partial India Radio
Y Lewis-IL	178/112	20/12	124			JRR - 6229
C Lobdell-MA	90/75	29/27	102			R Mi Amigo
J Rose-VA	189/93	11/7	100			R Korak Intl
J McWilliams-PA	121/79	15/13	92			XEROX
A Spremo-NY	138/83	13/8	91	1/1		all of them
S Gentry-IL	129/77	6/3	80			KMCR
R D'Angelo-PA	69/63	18/15	78	29/27		HeMan R
S Rogovich-VA	56/52	2/2	54			R Clandestine
V Havrilko-FL	56/39	14/12	51			R USA
S Foechner-NY	54/34		34			WORK
C Harkins-ONT	46/29		29			WGLR
G Lytle-TX	32/26	6/1	27			KIWI
B Wooten-GA	16/13		13			
C Cuomo-PA	11/10		10			
H Short-MA?	10/9		9			R Garbanzo

Kindly update your totals for inclusion; mail them to: ACE Stats, PO Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180. Please note that the ACE Stats are *only* available to A*C*E members

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

BY GEORGE ZELLER

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1300-2200 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@nacs.net address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page.

CLANDESTINES HEARD AT FRENCH CREEK DXPEDEITION

Last month I noted my plans to attend an early February DXpedition at French Creek State Park between Reading and Philadelphia. This event took place as scheduled. NASWA members Rich

D'Angelo, Fred Kohlbrenner, and Ed Mauger rounded out our DXpedition crew. I brought my Ten Tec 340 DSP multi-kilobuck receiver, hooked up to a 500 foot piece of yellow wire strung out into the woods. As advertised, I spent some time chasing a variety of clandestines that can be heard from North America. As a result, we start out with a batch of loggings. I heard all of these stations at French Creek.

Voice of the Sahara (Western Sahara)- 7460 2300 2/4/02. This one is run by the Polisario Front, based in Algeria. They are opposed to Moroccan control of the Western Sahara. I heard two ID's on the hour, but most of the program was English language rock. I had a pretty good signal; this one is easy to hear..

IBC Tamil Service- 7460 0000 2/5/02. Apparently the actual ID of this one is Tamil-Oli Radio. I heard an anthem by band, an ID, and talks by both a man and a woman in a language that I couldn't identify, but which presumably was Tamil. Clandestine Radio Com says that this one can be written via Radio Asia Group, Boite Postale 50, 93122 La Courneuve Cedex, France..

Information Radio (Afghanistan)- 8700 0200 2/5/02. Just about all of us have heard your tax dollars at work on this one by now. On this date they had largely a music program, presumably to contrast with the old Taliban music prohibition. This one remains on the air, despite the virtual end of the conflict and the institution of other broadcasters.

Radio Free Afghanistan- 17725 *0300 2/5/02. This one is clearly on the air now. I noted time pips into a program that clearly was discussing Afghanistan. But, I could not make out an ID, and neither could Rich D'Angelo. The signal was fairly weak, but I had clear copy nevertheless. Clandestine Radio Com says that you can write them via RFE/RL at 1201 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036/

Voice of Islamic Revolution in Iraq- 7100//9790//11660 0330 2/5/02. This one is run by the Shia Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, headed by Muhammed Baqir al-Hakim. They are pro-Shiite and they focus on southern Iraq. I heard a discussion program by a male announcer with multiple mentions of Saddam Hussein. 9790 kHz was barely audible, but the other two frequencies had good signals except for intermittent 40 meter ham QRM on 7100. This one also has a contact address at 27A Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3XX, UK.

Voice of Freedom (Sudan)- 6965 0400 2/5/02. This clandestine is the voice of the Sudan Alliance Forces. It's probably one that many of us have noticed before, given its operations in the pirate band. On this day they had a mix of music and upbeat talks by a male announcer.. I heard bad RTTY QRM above the center frequency, but the program was clear in LSB ECSS mode. The alleged address for this one is the Sudan Alliance Forces, Culture and Information Office, Post Office Box 9257, Neguse Street Number 6/8, Asmara, Eritrea.

Radio Free Afghanistan- 15525 1300 2/5/02. Here are your tax dollars newly at work again, as above. The program consisted of talk by male and female announcers with music bridges between the talk segments. Our government was putting out a pretty good signal. There was a carrier on 11920 kHz at this same time, but it had no audio.

Denge Mesopotamia- 11530 1330 2/5/02. The Kurdistan Workers Party operates this one, with an English language translation as the Voice of Mesopotamia. The show was Greek-sounding music with several clear ID's. One of the ID's was by a female repeated eight times consecutively. There was a good signal on 11530, but 9950 kHz completely inaudible. As we mentioned in the column last month, TDP, c/o Ludo Maes, P. O. Box 1, B - 2310 Rijkvorsel is an address that is allegedly starting to produce a QSL here and there.

Radio Free Iraq- 11835 1400 2/5/02. Here's another program coming out of your income tax revenues. The transmission was mainly a talk program by a male announcer, with only occasional music. I did not find it to be a particularly distinctive or interesting program. The signal was gone by 1423 UTC, but I had it as weak but audible before that.

Voice of Palestine- 13750 1430 2/5/02. This one is back on the air after being blown up several times. They are finding a way to get out. I heard a clear ID on the half hour by a male announcer, into what sounded like a news program mentioning Arafat several times, but also with some music mixed in. I had a very good signal, so this one should be easy to hear for most of us. Clandestine Radio Com gives an e-mail address for them at ballistan@ballistan.com but I have no idea if they respond more often than Psycho Radio does.

World Falun Dafa Radio- 9945 9925 2120 2/5/02. I heard a Chinese speaking woman mixed in with plenty of Chinese mx. This was a very interesting log, as the two different transmitters on closely spaced frequencies were carrying the same program, but the feed was not in parallel. You could hear what you missed a minute ago on 9945 by tuning down to 9925 for an instant replay. That's odd enough that you might want to check it out.

La Vox Resistencia (Colombia)- I haven't seen any sign of the Colombian clandestine lately, including a dearth of logs in the DX press. Even so, I made numerous checks in the morning of each day of the DXpedition, plus bandscans of plenty of frequencies just above 49 meters. I was checking to see if they were there, but all this work revealed no sign of this one. The reason why it isn't being reported appears to be that it is inactive, at least on 49 meters. It's no wonder that the Colombian Rebels aren't doing better than they are; with all of those cocaine profits you would think that they would have the brains to invest in a good transmitter.

VENEZUELA (not clandestine) Radio Rumbos- 4970 1140-1158+ 2/5/02 and 2315 2/5/02. I know that this one isn't a clandestine, but I was quite surprised to hear the station, which I have not heard for years. I didn't believe that it was Rumbos until a very clear ID at 1158. In the morning they mainly had a talk program by a male announcer. I picked up a decent signal in the morning, but I had considerably weaker reception in the afternoon. I wonder if this apparent reactivation had something to do with the current turmoil in Venezuela?

NEW E-PROM FOR TEN TEC 340

The Ten Tec 340 has been around for well over a year now, and it has been widely reviewed. There were several upgrades in the latest e-prom version 1.10A, notably an extension of the notch range to +/- 6000 Hz, an implementation of a modestly performing noise blanker, and the addition of a 9 kHz tuning step for European MW. Since I began using the new version, it appeared right away to me that there had been some improvement to the lock function of the synchronous detector, although this had not been advertised. If true, this would be a major improvement, since the lock of the synch in my original e-prom version was clearly sub-par. It locked fine on strong signals, but it inevitably bounced in and out of lock every few seconds on anything below about S2 or even S3 on the S meter. This sort of performance was worse than just about every other synch detector on the market, even on cheap portables. Thus, it was a huge wart in an otherwise fine receiver.

I went to French Creek with the intention of trying out the synch lock on a variety of weak signals. I can now report that the lock improvement has been in the range of 80% or 90%. This is a gigantic improvement. The synch will actually stay locked on considerably weaker signals than before. But, on something truly weak, the lock is still not there. It drifts in and out of lock just like before. This is not the fault of the signals; the purpose of the synch detector is to keep AM signals with a constant carrier even when they are weak or fluttery. I used a Sherwood SE-3 A-B with the Ten Tec Synch for control purposes. All signals, even very weak ones, stay locked on the SE-3 100% of the time normally. This is not the case on the Ten Tec 340 when a very weak signal is tuned. It still pops annoyingly in and out of synch, although it does this with no whine. It just goes between regular AM and synch AM.

So, I can report that you can now use the synch on the improved Ten Tec 340 with the latest e-prom version. The older versions had a completely deficient synch. But, even the improved version is not as good as a Sony 2010, a Grundig 800, etc. Ten Tec should be applauded for the improvement, but they should be embarrassed to sell a synch like this for 40 pictures of General Grant. I hope they keep at it, going once again back to the drawing board.

The WJ HF-1000 does not have this problem, but the synch detector on the Watkins Johnson is not selectable like it is on the Ten Tec. So, the kilobuck DSP receivers still need some development work in synchronous detectors. Until that work is done, the Sherwood SE-3 is still an essential peripheral to the DSP big rigs. The SE-3 works easily from the 455 kHz IF OUT terminal on the back of either the 340 or the HF-1000/8711.

For those who recall memorable French Creek traditions from past years, I have to report that this year I did not take down Ed Mauger's antenna by mistake at the end of the DXpedition. Some people have no respect for tradition.

TERRY KREUGER'S FLORIDA UNLICENSED BROADCASTING SITE

This is actually Bud Stacey's department, so I'll leave most of the discussion of this to him. But, at <http://home.earthlink.net/~tocobagadx/flortis.html> on the web is a wonderful web site outlining the history of low power broadcasting in the state of Florida. Webmeister Terry Kreuger sends in this news direct. Although most of the coverage relates to pirates, TIS stations, and other miscellaneous items, there is some clandestine material in there. You ought to check it out.

FEST UNLICENSED BROADCASTING COVERAGE

This makes the third month in a row that I have mentioned the imminent Winter SWL Festival in Kulpville, Pennsylvania. A raft of e-mails floated around during the last month about an unlicensed broadcasting forum at this year's Fest. Festmeister John Figliozzi has announced that as usual, there will in fact be a gala pirate and clandestine roundtable at the Fest once again. Chris Lobdell, the pirate columnist in *The Journal of the North American Shortwave Association* will be the ringmaster. Plenty of other unlicensed broadcasting journalists will be present, including your editor, longtime free radio supporter and author Andrew Yoder, legendary former pirate operator Alan Weiner of WBCQ radio, and others. It ought to be a highlight of the Fest. Further, the original Voice of Pancho Villa has scheduled an appearance this year.

The unlicensed broadcasting brigade will obviously have another strong presence at the Fest, but this is by no means the only thing going on. Noted speakers include Bob Zanotti of Swiss Radio International and Kim Andrew Elliott of the Voice of America. I know of a few other surprise guests that are showing up this year, but you have to go there to find out who they are.

If you haven't made your reservations yet, you need to act at once. Full information is available at the Fest web site, found as usual at <http://www.swlfest.com/> on the web. You need to call the Best Western hotel for room reservations, so avoid disappointment and pick up your phone at once.

THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), John Figliozzi (New York), Tom Severt (Kansas), Terry Kreuger (Florida), and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by March 15 for the April *Clandestine Profile*.

Micro'casting

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The sole purpose of this column is to educate ACE readers of the many facets of Part 15 and micro-radio; this is YOUR column. Please send all stuff and what-have-you to one of the addresses above and YOU can claim credit or blame, whichever you prefer!

APOLOGY: Folks, please accept my apology for being gone so long; between work and personal affairs, my days have been 18+ hours long nowadays, so when I eventually DO get some spare time, I "veg" out. PLUS, I've NOT gotten any tidbits from you, the readers, on what's happening out there in your world of micro-radio- what gives? Nonetheless, I shall endeavor to continue...

Since "our" Congress passed legislation regarding LPFM, seems like "we the people" have been left out in the cold. The LPFM legislation was "enhanced" by large communications interests, which lobbied Congress toward this "special interest", therefor passing legislation that only appeared to appease the people, when in fact, we got "it" with no Vaseline! Hence, government being influenced by big business equals Fascism...we hardly have any vestige of a Constitutional Republic any more, if at all. Lobbyists for big business influence our government instead of being influenced by the people...constituants seemingly no longer matter to these "professional politicians".

Yes, I'm bitter. Yes, I'm angry. Not only with this and other legislation regarding radio, but also with that regarding our freedoms. Little do many folks know, but the benign-sounding "U.S. Patriot Act of 2001" REALLY ripped your Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth and Eleventh Amendments of your Bill of Rights, in the name of "security". Now, buried in the pages of "campaign finance reform" legislation, your First Amendment rights have been ripped to shreds. These jerks SWORE to uphold the Constitution of the United States, yet their actions show their real intent: "Screw the people, I've got MY office now, I'll do what I damned well please!"

Since LPFM has been gutted and handed over to entities with the most money (as before), maybe it's time for a resurgence of CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE. One such publication that touts this is that of the Association of Micro-Power Broadcasters, or AMPB for short. Paul Griffin gets it all together fairly monthly for donations. This publication has been mentioned here before and is different but appealing! Paul and I think alike in that we think the two-out-of-three people polled recently would give up civil liberties in favor of security are NUTS, NUTS, NUTS! For a different, but complimentary view of radio to the ACE, contact Paul at: 2018 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 and send a few bucks for some copies. You can also reach Paul at: ampb@california.com with your views on the situation. He'll print you! Tell him Bud from The ACE sent you.

ALT.RADIO.PIRATE NEWSGROUP: It's been active with many "newbies" still asking for HELP! in getting on the air, all over the world! However, one poor guy said he'd not get "on" any more; here's his post:

Ben wrote: "I had previously ran 95.9 about 3 years ago and the FCC came out. I then stopped broadcasting for about a year. I ran on 90.3 once in a while and sometimes ran one week straight without any problems. I went on 95.9 on Friday and had been running 24/7 with one watt of power and the FCC came out today, Tuesday, January 16. I am now done with my pirate radio hobby."

A reply to this post was, "Just with one watt? Whoa...you must live next to an FCC monitoring station! Steve"

It looks like to me that, for every one sad story such as this, thirty+ more want to start up, even if they know the circumstances.

And thanks to our own "Hard Harry" Helms comes the post of "Landlocked Dallas...Invaded By Pirates" from the Dallas Morning News, sent to me on February 11 this year. The gist of it is, there's an unidentified station in Dallas that plays '50s to '70s music, but there's no live voice or i.d. The FCC is investigating the station. Quote: "Despite the glamorization of pirate radio in such films as *Pump Up The Volume*, the FCC takes unauthorized broadcasting seriously." No duh! Then it goes into the cardboard-tasting blah-blah-blah we've all heard about the FCC's procedures of warning & tracking down such stations. Believe it or not, the article quoted radio.about.com the eight common pieces of equipment a station needs to get on the air! Go, Dallas Morning News, go!

EQUIPMENT: One last tidbit...FM Broadcasters (206-229-7997 or www.fmbroadcasters.com) now offers the CP-250 FM transmitting antenna for low-power/booster/translator market. The CP-250 is a circular-polarized copper and stainless steel antenna, rated at 250 watts. Stacking these will offer gain. No other specs are offered, but maybe the website will hint at such. No prices were quoted, either.

To that end, I'd like to thank Paul Griffin and "Hard Harry" Helms for their contributions. May we see some of YOUR material here next month? I HOPE SO! de Bud

Covert Comms

By Tom Sevat



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Recently listeners have been hearing the "whales" station, or XM on 2662 USB. This station has also been referred to as the "backwards music station," which is kind of a misnomer, since it doesn't really sound like music forwards or backwards. "Whales" are a far more accurate description.

These signals normally show up on or near US Navy or Coast Guard frequencies, which seems to indicate that the signal is generated from a fault in their radio equipment. One possible explanation is that audio from a receiver is leaking into a transmitter when not in use. This will produce the "whale" sound if the receiver and transmitter are very close in frequency. If they are off a few hertz, a faster warbling sound will be heard. Try keying up a SSB transmitter with a receiver tuned to the same frequency. You'll get the same results. As the transmitter and receiver are tuned close to the same exact frequency, the warbling slows down and eventually becomes a "whale" sound. Theoretically it should be possible to get a solid tone, but in practice it's difficult to get a transmitter & receiver tuned well enough. Whenever someone keys up the microphone, the signal goes away until the transmitter shuts off, then starts wailing again. At any rate, it seems to be a good, inadvertent way of keeping the frequency clear between use.

One station I mentioned a couple years back is the as yet unidentified US military SIGINT digital/CW training station heard on 10225 and 16303. This station transmits simulated radio traffic in various digital modes and CW for copy by future SIGINT operators. The transmitter site is still a mystery, but the receiver site is probably located at the US Army Intelligence School at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona.

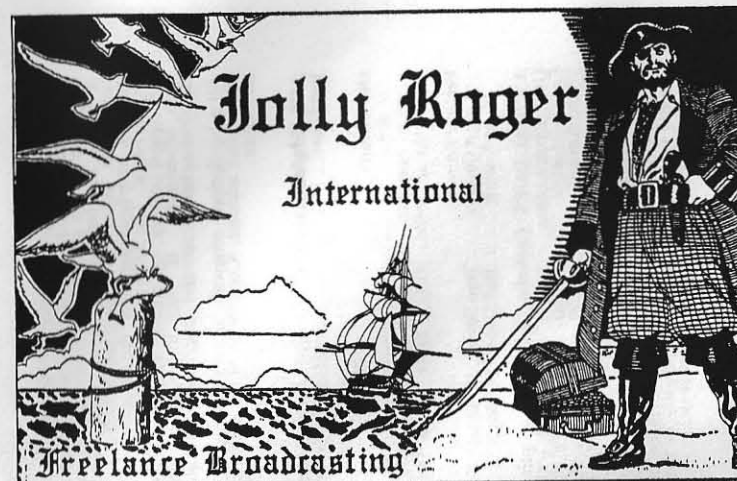
I've recently logged this station as active on 10225, but 16303 is still quiet. I'm not sure if it's a lack of good propagation or if they stopped using that frequency. The station has been very weak on 10225 lately here in Kansas, and I've managed to only get partial copy in some of the digital modes.

This station used to transmit for about two or three hours twice daily, sending simulated traffic which normally consists of letter and number code group messages. Just about any message format you could think of was sent, including occasional plaintext. Now, it seems to like to come on the air and transmit for a few minutes, then go silent for an hour or so.

If any of you readers out there who can copy different digital modes such as RTTY, FEC, and ASCII can hear this station, I'd appreciate it if you could let me know. This is a fun station to copy, and will give you lots of practice trying to find the different digital modes and speeds that it sends. Frequencies used are 10225 and 16303, but I've also logged it on 11122.7 and 16172 in the past.

The E10 Mossad stations can usually be heard here during evening/night hours, but the only thing I ever hear them doing is repeating the ID with a "2." We all know that the "2" means "no message." Is it just me, or have these stations been without traffic for a while? About a month ago, some of the E10 stations were heard passing message strings (e.g. KPA repeating KPA2Z3B) which may or may not have some special meaning. The last message I heard was from EZ1 on 6840 on the 12th of January.

By the time you read this, the 2002 SWL Winterfest in Kulpville, PA will probably be in full swing. I hope to see many of you there.



To: Harry Helms

This is confirming your reception report of 1/1/93 at 6:21 UTC on a frequency 7.415 MHz in the 41 meter band.

During this broadcast we were operating at a power of 1000 watts into a 6X1 Curtain Array antenna.

Thank you for your report!

73's

Blackbeard

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The A·C·E Pirate Radio Mailing List is a free e-mail list moderated by ACE publisher Harry Helms. Exchange pirate radio DX tips, discuss people and personalities, get advance notice of pirate operations! To join, just send a BLANK e-mail to:

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the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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